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Suggested Talking Points for the Under Secretary's  
Call on Minister of Interior Harguindeguy.

Brigadier General Albano Harguindeguy, the Minister of Interior, is a tough cavalry officer -- one of the "hardliners" insofar as his approach to ending subversion-terrorism. He also is the toughest government member on civilian politicians, and delivers hard speeches about why it will be necessary for the military to run Argentina for many years.

As Interior Minister, Harguindeguy plays a large role in deciding how the security apparatus will be run, how prisoners will be treated, and which among prisoners will be released or allowed to leave the country under Argentina's "right of option" program. In a speech two weeks ago Harguindeguy rebuked police for their using methods evoking terrorism, and he told a U.S. newsman that similar word had gone out to military elements dealing in security. We hope this is the bellwether of changing government policies.

Talking Points

-- I am here to learn about your country and the problems which are damaging our bilateral relations.

-- It is my purpose to see if we can bring about a change in relations.

-- Your speech to the police suggests that you are going to insist that they respect the rights of Argentine citizens. This is a welcome development.

-- It would be very helpful to me if you could review the security situation as it existed in March 1976 and as you see it today.

-- I would be particularly grateful if you could describe the steps you are taking to restore due process and internal peace, so that I may have an idea of developments to which we might respond.

-- I would also appreciate knowing if we can be helpful in resolving the question of prisoners by participating in your right of option procedures.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full

( ) Classify as \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Extend as \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Downgrade to \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

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